Nova Scotia

ANNUAL REPORT

for the fiscal year
ending March 31, 1988

Advisory Council on the Status of Women

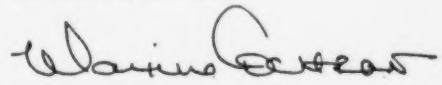
To His Honour

The Honorable Alan R. Abraham, C.D.
The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia

Sir:

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1988.

Respectfully submitted,



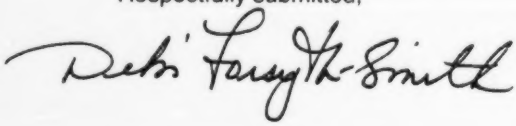
Maxine Cochran
Minister in charge of Administration
of the Advisory Council on
the Status of Women Act

The Honorable Maxine Cochran
Minister in charge of Administration
of the Advisory Council on the
Status of Women Act
Province of Nova Scotia
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Madam:

I have the privilege on behalf of the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women to present our report on the work of the Council for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1988.

Respectfully submitted,



Debi Forsyth-Smith
President

CONTENTS

Council Mandate 8

Council Members 9

Chairperson's Report 11

President's Report 13

Highlights of President's Activities 15

Committee Reports 17

Field Work Program 21

Issues and Recommendations 23

Future Directions/Plan of Action 27

Publications 31

Financial Statement 33

COUNCIL'S MANDATE

The Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women is a group of individuals from various walks of life who share a common concern about Nova Scotian women.

Members of the Council are appointed by government and collectively represent the regional, cultural, and ethnic diversity of the province. With the exception of the full-time President, all members are unsalaried. The Council consists of various committees that meet regularly to discuss and deal with numerous issues.

The mandate of the Council is twofold:

1) to advise the Minister upon such matters relating to the status of women as referred to the Council for consideration by the Minister, and
2) to bring to the attention of the Minister matters of interest and concern to women.

The Council in carrying out its duties may:

- receive and hear petitions and suggestions concerning the status of women
- undertake and recommend research on matters relevant to the status of women
- recommend and participate in programs concerning the status of women
- propose legislation, policies and practices to promote equality of opportunity and status
- publish reports, studies and recommendations.

MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

GAETZ, Sheri, *Chairperson*
Site 7, Comp. 50, R.R. #1
Porter's Lake, Nova Scotia
B0J 2S0
829-3470 (H)

CARVERY, Linda
2110 Creighton Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3K 3R4
422-4389 (H)

CROOKER, Marie
R.R. #1, Italy Cross
Lunenburg Co., Nova Scotia
B0J 1V0
543-9583 (H)

D'ENTREMONT, Pauline
P.O. Box 70
West Pubnico, Nova Scotia
B0W 3S0
762-2655 (H)

GARDINER, Catherine
10 Marconi Street
North Sydney, Nova Scotia
B2A 3G1
794-3971 (H)

LASSALINE, Donna
Site 12, Box 2, R.R. #1
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
B2Y 3X7
434-0083 (H)

MACISAAC, Irene
28 Harold Street/P.O. Box 266
Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia
B0E 2V0
625-1347 (H)

MACLEOD, Eyleen
Saunders Road, R.R. #2
Pictou Co., Nova Scotia
B0N 1Y0
485-6417 (H)

MCILVENA, Diane
29 Russell Street
Amherst, Nova Scotia
B4H 2S5
667-5372 (H)

OLIVER, Linda
P.O. Box 2010, Station "M"
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2Z1
421-7128 (W), 445-4864 (H)

SLATER, Myrna
5770 Spring Garden Road
Apt. 1609
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 4J8
422-5242 (H)

SULLIVAN, Agnes
3508 Plummer Avenue
New Waterford, Nova Scotia
B1H 1Z9
862-6788 (H)

RESIGNED/TERM EXPIRY

EMMETT, Dorothy
Annapolis Co., N.S.

KENNEDY, Monica
Dartmouth, N.S.

SHEARS, Margaret
Halifax, N.S.

SWINDELLS, Irene, *Chairperson*
Halifax, N.S.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Due to various pressing commitments, our able Chairperson, Irene Swindells, resigned in mid November, and I became acting Chairperson. On behalf of other Council members I would like to extend to Irene Swindells our sincere thanks for her leadership and hard work, and to wish her all the best in the future. The Council grew tremendously in the eyes of many people because of her capability and devotion.

Many projects have come to fruition since my term began. The Council has made recommendations to government on pay equity and presented formal briefs on free trade, AIDS and sex-role stereotyping in the electronic media. Briefing documents on "Women and Economic Equality" were prepared for the Annual First Minister's Conference in Toronto, and for the Cabinet Secretariat. Concerns, recommendations, and positions were forwarded to government on the following issues: the Meech Lake Accord, child care (with reference to the new Federal Strategy), abortion, education, family planning, Canada Pension Plan, family and children's services, social assistance, family violence, reproductive technology, and parental leave and benefits.

The Council has deliberated on numerous issues pertaining to women in Nova Scotia. Our Field Workers are the grass roots link to the community, and they are to be commended for their diligent efforts to inform and support women in their areas. Their reports are encouraging, and we are confident that this program will continue to grow.

I suppose each Council member comes equipped with her own particular concern in regard to women's issues. Because I am a teacher, my priority is young women and the importance of education to ensure each young woman recognizes her worth, self-esteem, and responsibility to herself. The future of our young women cannot be left to chance. I feel that economics is the key to a worthwhile future. It is up to the Council along with others to educate, counsel, and support our young women so that their future will be a brighter one.

In November a new Minister responsible for the Status of Women was appointed. The Council appreciates the interest and support of the Honourable Maxine Cochran and looks forward to her efforts on our behalf in the future.

As Council Members we make decisions and formulate policies and programs. However, without the hard work and expertise of our Presi-

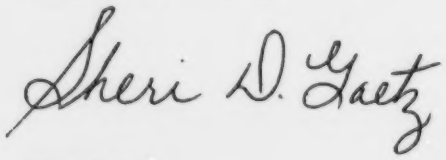
dent, Debi Forsyth-Smith, and her staff, all our efforts would go nowhere. Thank you.

To others on the Council, a sincere thank you. Your support has been most welcome, as well as your genuine concern for the women of Nova Scotia.

Finally, the women of Nova Scotia must be responsible. You must tell us of your concerns and problems. The more informed we are, the more able we are to accomplish our goals and fulfill our mandate.

Recently I attended a conference at which I met and talked with Chairpersons and members of Councils across Canada. I can assure you that the NSACSW is second to none in the country—we can be proud!

Respectfully submitted,



Sheri Gaetz,
Chairperson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

March 30, 1988, marked the completion of the first year of my mandate as President of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women. In many ways, it has been an exciting year.

As we reviewed the evolution of the Advisory Council during our Tenth Anniversary celebrations last fall, we focused on the *Task Force Report on the Status of Women* of 1976. One of the many recommendations of that report included the establishment of a Ministry of Women to provide a "focus for issues affecting women and the family, ensure citizen participation in the issues, and promote implementation of the recommendations of the Nova Scotia Task Force on the Status of Women." The Advisory Council was established "to provide women with two essential forms of power and prestige: at the highest level of decision-making, the Cabinet, and at the vital grass roots level." We feel that we have lived up to that commitment this year. As a result of our activities with the Field Work Program in particular, we have fulfilled a vital part of our mandate in maintaining communication between women and government.

Pay equity legislation for the public sector, crown corporations, hospitals and school boards has now been proclaimed. The promise of legislation for the private sector by 1992 has been secured. The Advisory Council considers this legislation to be one of the most important steps ever taken toward economic equality for women. We are extremely proud that we have contributed to making it a reality for Nova Scotians.

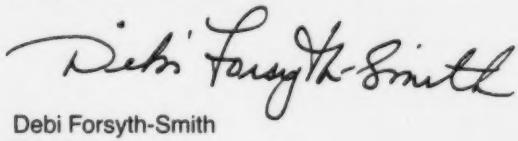
Now we unfold our plans for the year ahead. Along with our ongoing activities and recommendations, we have identified three major areas of concern to women which require study and action (our complete Plan of Action is contained elsewhere in this report).

Throughout the province I have seen women working together in a positive and supportive environment. They have been taking the leading role in addressing issues that have serious implications for society as a whole. We are heartened and encouraged by the level and quality of activity by groups such as the Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women, the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Women's Action Coalition of Nova Scotia, women's resource centres throughout the province, the Registered Nurses Association of Nova Scotia, transition house associations and a host of other groups. These groups have clearly declared their commitment to their communities in addressing issues as wide ranging as free trade, pay

equity, the health care system, reproductive technology, parental benefits, poverty, family violence, and legal rights, to name just a few.

Many thanks to all of you for supporting the Advisory Council in this year of change and development. The year ahead contains a packed agenda and as always, we look to you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,



Debi Forsyth-Smith
President

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

Some of the many groups addressed and consulted by the President in the past year were:

- Ad Hoc Committee on Women and the Meech Lake Accord
- Adsum House—Halifax
- Antigonish Women's Association
- Berwick Senior Citizens Centre
- Bryony House—Halifax
- Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women (C.C.L.O.W.)
- Canadian Federation of University Women
- Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (C.R.I.A.W.)
- Childcare Advocacy Association of Nova Scotia (C.A.A.N.S.)
- Correctional Services Employees—Kentville
- Chrysalis House—Kentville
- Cumberland County Transition House Association
- Dalhousie University—Shirreff Hall Graduation Banquet
- D.E.S. Action Nova Scotia
- Eastern Shore Learning Opportunities for Women (L.E.A. Place)
- Federation des Acadiennes de la Nouvelle-Ecosse
- Guysborough Learning Opportunities for Women (G.L.O.W.)
- Hadassah Groups
- Halifax Board of Trade
- Halifax Continuing Education
- House of Hope—Sydney
- Job Re-entry Program—Sackville
- Kentville Business and Professional Women's Club
- Media Watch
- New Glasgow Council of Women
- N.S. Fruit Growers Association—Kentville
- Nova Scotia Association of Social Workers
- Nova Scotia Federation of Labour
- Planned Parenthood Association of Nova Scotia
- Planned Parenthood Association of Halifax, Dartmouth, and Halifax County
- Pre-school Association of Halifax
- Registered Nurses Association of Nova Scotia—Atlantic Region
- Registered Nurses Association of Nova Scotia—Highland Region
- Second Story Women's Centre—Bridgewater
- Secretary of State—Women's Program
- St. Mary's University—various classes
- Women Aware—Port Hawkesbury

- Women Unlimited—Sydney
- Women's Action Coalition of Nova Scotia (WAC-NS)
- Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia (WINS)
- YWCA Women in Transition Training Program

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Annual Meeting
- Tenth Anniversary: Open House
  Public Symposium
- Pay Equity Forum
- International Women's Day: Planning Luncheon
  Open House

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Program Committee is a committee of Council and is accountable to Council. The Chairperson is appointed by Council and has a committee of not more than five members. This past year the Program Committee consisted of:

Irene Swindells, Council Chairperson
Debi Forsyth-Smith, President
Pauline d'Entremont
Catherine Gardiner
Linda Oliver

The Committee meets regularly to formulate plans for important upcoming events. These plans are then presented to the Council for approval.

This past year was a busy one for the Program Committee. Plans were made to celebrate our Tenth Anniversary, with the theme—"Stepping into the '90s". Celebrations began with the official opening of our office in the Purdy's Wharf Tower by the Honourable John Buchanan, Premier of Nova Scotia. The afternoon Open House was a big success, allowing members of the public to meet our Council and staff.

On September 18, 1988, the Council hosted our Tenth Anniversary Public Symposium. Our guest speakers were Dr. Norman Greenberg, Dr. Ellen McLean and Ms. Gwen Wolfe.

Dr. Greenberg is a member of the Steering Committee of the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association. He spoke to the gathering on child care and its importance to working parents. He said we must make sure that any program on child care has accessibility, affordability, accountability and quality care.

Dr. Ellen McLean, President of the Associated Country Women of the World, shared her view on pensions. One statement that made a lasting impression was that if you are female and old in the '80s, you are more likely to be poor than rich. She also said that pension reform is not easily understood. Women should study the legislation and be aware of what is available to them. Bill 103 covers many recommendations of women's groups regarding pensions. It is not perfect according to Dr. McLean, but it is good. Once again, Council will be pursuing improvements in this area in the future.

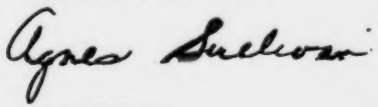
Ms. Gwen Wolfe, President of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour, addressed pay equity. According to Ms. Wolfe, legislation is important if women are going to "step into the 90s" with any dignity. Women have subsidized the economy for years and earn between 55 and 70 percent of men's wages. The Federation of Labour has sponsored an in-depth study on pay equity and has published a pamphlet on the subject. The Advisory Council joins others in welcoming the recently introduced Pay Equity Legislation in Nova Scotia.

Special posters, pamphlets and buttons were commissioned by the Council to mark the 10th Anniversary. As well, Jane Wright, our staff researcher prepared a brief history of the Council to be included in our Council brochure.

The Program Committee also directed its attention to the International Women's Day celebration on March 8th. To prepare for this day, the Council with financial aid from our Canadian Advisory Council member, Linda Oliver, hosted a luncheon on December 11th. The purpose of the luncheon was to determine the plans of other women's groups to mark International Women's Day. We had hoped that the Council and the women's organizations would combine plans for one huge celebration. As a result, the Program Committee formulated plans to mark International Women's Day and chose "Women of the World" as our theme. To mark this special day, we released balloons in the Province House garden at noon. Balloons, buttons and posters were also distributed to women's groups throughout the province. In Halifax, a banner was carried to Province House and a proclamation was read by the Premier commemorating International Women's Day.

On behalf of the Program Committee, I wish to express my thanks to the Council and to the public who support our many programs through the year.

Respectfully submitted,



Agnes Sullivan
Chairperson

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee's mandate is to assist the President in the screening, interviewing, and hiring of staff. Dorothy Emmett chaired this committee until October 1987.

The fiscal year 1987/88 was a busy one for the Personnel Committee as staff positions have been totally restructured. During the year, candidates were hired for the following positions: President, Researcher, Accounting Clerk, Co-ordinator of Regional Services, President's Secretary, Clerk-Typist, and five Fieldworkers.

Our present staff consists of:

Debi Forsyth-Smith, President
Jane Wright, Researcher
Marilyn Berry, Co-ordinator of Regional Services
Kathi Whiston, Accounting Clerk
Nancy MacCallum, Secretary to President
Sharon Harrett, Secretary
Barbara Tanner, Receptionist, Secretary to Field Work Program
Stella Bourgeois, Fieldworker, Inverness County
Joy Bishop, Fieldworker, Kings/Annapolis County
Heather Robinson, Fieldworker, Eastern Shore
Shirley Bardswich, Fieldworker, Industrial Cape Breton
Jennifer Rennison, Fieldworker, Hants County
Lorrie Melanson-Jones, Fieldworker, Cumberland County

Respectfully Submitted,

Marie Crooker

Marie Crooker
Chairperson

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

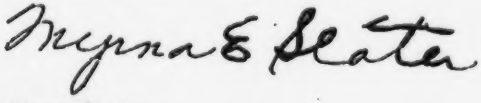
Members of the Committee include:
Myrna Slater, Chairperson
Irene MacIsaac
Linda Oliver
Margaret Shears—(Term expired in August 1987)

In lieu of proposed structural changes, the Committee's functions were reviewed as stated in the constitution. Four meetings were held including one telephone meeting. The Committee gave priority to reviewing current legislation being enacted or in existence. Recommendations were made to Council and the President regarding childcare, pay equity and pensions.

Committee research included consultation with experts in these three fields. The addition of a full-time researcher has enhanced the work of the Legislative Committee. A closer liaison with the Public Legal Education Society and other agencies was assured through discussions and consultations.

The last meeting of the Committee was spent reviewing and revising Bill 146 (An Act to Establish an Advisory Council on the Status of Women) and Council's Management Papers. The Committee reported its recommended changes to the Council on March 9, 1988. It was agreed that the changes be adopted and submitted to the Minister in charge of Administration of the Status of Women Act.

Respectfully submitted,



Myrna Slater
Chairperson

FIELD WORK PROGRAM

The Field Work Program was implemented in 1981 to provide increased access to information and resources related to the concerns of women. This year I have completed my first year as Co-ordinator of Regional Services. It has been an exciting year for me as it also saw the growth of the Field Work Program from one part-time position to six part-time positions for the following regions:

INVERNESS COUNTY:
Stella Bourgeois
Box 616
Cheticamp, N.S.
B0E 1H0
(902) 224-3629

INDUSTRIAL CAPE BRETON:
Shirley Bardswich
12 Burchell Street
Sydney Mines, N.S.
B1V 2R1
(902) 736-6347

KINGS/ANNAPOLIS COUNTIES:
Joy Bishop
R.R. #3
Middleton, N.S.
B0S 1P0
(902) 825-2368

COLCHESTER-EAST HANTS COUNTIES:
Jennifer Rennison
R.R. #1
Milford Station, N.S.
B0N 1Y0
(902) 758-3364

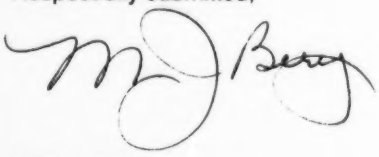
CUMBERLAND COUNTY:
Lorrie Melanson-Jones
Box 859
Amherst, N.S.
B4H 4B9
(902) 667-8948

EASTERN SHORE:
Heather Robinson
Box 136
Sheet Harbour, N.S.
B0J 3B0
(902) 885-2636

Field Workers have participated in a number of programs for women in their particular regions. They have also organized and sponsored workshops and awareness days to meet the needs of women. Workshops have been conducted on pay equity, sexual harassment, pornography, child care, health issues, sexuality and peer pressure for young women, young offenders, female entrepreneurs, non-traditional opportunities and career counselling. They have worked directly with seniors, students, and women with a variety of interests and needs. The Field Work Program has recently assisted with two research projects on housing for single parents and women on social assistance.

The Co-ordinator and Field Workers are available to discuss a number of issues and to conduct workshops on a variety of topics.

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn Berry
Co-ordinator of Regional Services

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Pay Equity

In January 1988, the Council submitted the following recommendations on pay equity to the Government of Nova Scotia.

WHEREAS, women in Nova Scotia continue to earn approximately 60 cents for every dollar earned by men.

AND WHEREAS, the wage gap between women and men working full-time in the Province of Nova Scotia exceeds that of every other province in Canada.

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Nova Scotia in the 1987 Speech from the Throne made a commitment to correcting the historically based injustice of gender based pay discrimination.

AND WHEREAS pay equity (or equal pay for work of equal value) is widely recognized as one element in a total scheme of employment equity programs designed to reduce the wage gap, The Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women recommends:

The provincial government begin immediately to draft a *Pay Equity Act* to cover all workers in Nova Scotia (including part-time and casual workers) in both the public and private sectors. That the elements of such legislation be based on an integrated model of pay equity: requiring pro-active pay equity programs together with an on-going complaints mechanism. That pay equity legislation be introduced in Nova Scotia in a series of stages: That the provincial government take a leading role in this area and immediately take steps to implement pay equity in the public sector—allowing a reasonable phase-in period for the private sector. And further, that the elements of pay equity legislation be based on a cooperative and participatory system of job evaluation. We further recommend that an administrative and monitoring body be established to enforce *The Pay Equity Act* and provide educational and information services to employers, employees, unions, and the public, and to generally assist all parties in the implementation of pay equity.

On March 31, 1988, Bill No. 55, *An Act to Provide for Pay Equity*, was introduced to the House of Assembly for first reading. The Bill received second reading on April 26, and was sent to the Law Amendments Committee for review. At this time the Council recommended several

changes to the Bill. The Bill passed third reading on May 13, 1988, and is designed to bring about pay equity in the public sector (Nova Scotia Civil Service, hospitals, crown corporations, school boards, corrections employees, and highway workers).

Free Trade

In December 1987, the Council welcomed the opportunity to express its concerns about the proposed Canada/U.S. Trade Agreement to the Nova Scotia Legislature's Select Committee on Trade Negotiations. The Council brought forward two major concerns about the proposed agreement: the dislocation and loss of jobs to women in Nova Scotia and the erosion of hard won social and employment programs gained by Canadian women over the past 20 years.

Prior to provincial endorsement of a trade agreement, the Council recommended that:

1) formal guarantees be issued to the women of Nova Scotia that measures will be taken to ensure that women who face job loss as a direct or indirect result of free trade will be retrained and able to secure employment in new fields;

2) social and economic programs remain intact and not be prevented in any manner from expanding to fully allow equality for women.

Education

In November 1987, the Advisory Council prepared a paper entitled "Women and Economic Equality" for the Annual First Minister's Conference in Toronto. Because the relationship between education and future employment is so closely connected, the Council recommended the following:

- the creation of public education campaigns addressing the current realities of women's lives and their labour force participation
- that every attempt be made to break the stereotypes about what work is suitable for women
- that career guidance counselling for young women be improved, especially at the high school level
- that educational/vocational programs aimed at women be expanded and improved

- that adequately funded job re-entry programs for women with particular emphasis on non-traditional work be established.

School Boards

The Advisory Council urged school boards across the province to formulate new policies on several issues to address the changing needs of women and their families. Specifically, the Council recommended:

- that school boards demonstrate flexibility and sensitivity to children of working families and allow student transfers to accommodate child care arrangements
- that the Department of Education reduce the school entry age to allow four year olds to attend school if they turn five by December 31st

Childcare

In December 1987, the federal government announced the elements of its National Strategy on Child Care. At this time, the Council re-issued its standing recommendations on child care:

- that a system of universally accessible, high quality, child care be established to meet the need of children and parents in Nova Scotia
- that no public monies support profit-making child care
- that governments provide incentives to employers to provide workplace child care

Reproductive Choice

In March, 1988, following the Supreme Court of Canada decision to remove abortion from the Criminal Code, the Council announced the following position:

The Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women supports the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision to remove abortion from the Criminal Code. It is the position of the Advisory Council that abortion is a woman's personal decision and that every woman must have access to certified medical care. The Council recommends that counselling, family planning and public education programs be expanded and made available to all women in an effort to reduce the need for abortion.

AIDS

In March 1988, the Council submitted a brief to the Nova Scotia Task Force on AIDS which focused on the need for increased education about sexually transmitted diseases. The Council recommended that sex education become a mandatory part of the curriculum in all schools. The Council also urged the Task Force to ensure that the issue of AIDS be dealt with in a sensitive and responsible manner, respecting the rights, privileges and personal freedoms of both the victims of AIDS and the general public.

Meech Lake Accord

In September 1987, the Council met with representatives of 12 major womens' groups. The following concerns about the Accord were raised and forwarded to the Nova Scotia and federal governments: process, clarity, equality rights, spending powers, Supreme Court and Senate appointments, and the status of the territories. The Council recommended that the federal and provincial governments openly address these concerns. The Council also supported the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women's recommendation that a National Constitutional Conference be held as soon as possible to find a way of amending the Accord to address the concerns of Canadian women.

NOVA SCOTIA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
PLAN OF ACTION 1988–89

Issue/Topic	Initiatives/Activities	Time Frame
ECONOMIC EQUALITY		
Pay Equity	Legislation introduced in the 1988 Session of the House will be monitored closely. Recommendations will be made regarding pay equity in the private sector.	Ongoing
Child Care	Negotiations with the Department of Community Services will continue regarding the Federal Strategy on Child Care. Recommendations reflecting the needs of Nova Scotian families will continue.	Ongoing
Maternity/Paternity Leave and Benefits	Recent changes and proposed changes will be monitored closely. Efforts will be made to document the increasing discrimination faced by many Nova Scotian women regarding pregnancy and maternity leave, specifically regarding resumption of work.	Ongoing
Part-time Work	The trend of increasing part-time work and the reduction of full-time job openings for women will remain a focus of concern.	Ongoing

Minimum Wage	The fact that women constitute 75 percent of workers who earn minimum wage contributes greatly to their economic disadvantage. Further study will be done regarding women and the minimum wage.	Ongoing
Technology	The increased use of labour saving technology and resulting shift schedules present critical problems to women workers. Further recommendations will be made on this growing trend.	Ongoing
Pensions	Insufficient and non-existent pensions continue to keep elderly women in Nova Scotia poverty stricken. The Council will strive to improve the system of pensions for Nova Scotian women and the situation of elderly women in general.	Ongoing
Social Assistance	During the past year, the Advisory Council has become increasingly sensitized to the difficulties faced by women on social assistance. The Council will serve on the N.S. Task Force on Levels of Cost-sharing for Municipal Assistance and will make further recommendations in this area.	September 1988

Young Women	Research Study—A major study will be designed and conducted to obtain a more detailed picture of the aspirations and realities of adolescent women in Nova Scotia and to confirm that young women in Nova Scotia hold the same notions about their futures as those found in similar studies (CACSW, 1985; Mary Morrissey, 1985) Recommendations—will be made to appropriate government departments regarding the education, health and social status of young women in Nova Scotia Publication—A comprehensive booklet will be written and produced which will aim to provide young women with accurate information about the realities of the world to assist them in making realistic and responsible decisions about their lives.	T.B.A.
Justice in Our Courts and Legal System	During the past year, the Council has become increasingly aware of the problems women face and the treatment they receive from our courts and legal system. The Council will begin to thoroughly investigate the following areas: Family Violence—specifically, the laying of charges by law enforcement authorities and the ensuing court and legal experiences of women in these cases. Sexual Assault—addressing the increasing pattern and lack of serious sentencing for sexual offenders.	

	Family Law—examining the treatment of women with regard to rulings/awards, the way women are treated by the courts, and the enforcement of awards (particularly the problem of maintenance enforcement).	Preliminary Findings Spring 1989
Regional Consultations	A series of regional meetings/consultations will be held from June 1988 to March 1989 to solicit input from women on issues of priority as defined by the Council, and to allow women throughout the province to bring other matters of concern to the Council's attention. These meetings will be held as follows: • Oyster Pond June 1988 • Sydney September 1988 • Yarmouth October 1988 • Truro November 1988 • New Glasgow November 1988 • Bridgewater February 1989 • Wolfville March 1989 • Amherst March 1989	

PUBLICATIONS OF THE NOVA SCOTIA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

- *Annual Report of the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women*

- *Matrimonial Property Law in Nova Scotia*
  A pamphlet, in question and answer format, that briefly explains the major provisions of the *Matrimonial Property Act*, 1980.

- *Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women*
  A brochure that gives an overview of the structure, mandate and services of the Council.

- *Pay Equity: One Step Closer to Equality*
  A pamphlet, briefly defining and describing the need for equal pay for work of equal value in Nova Scotia. (1988)

- *Status of Women News*
  Quarterly newsletter of the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

- *Survival: A Sourcebook for Widows*
  An information booklet designed to help women cope with the emotional, financial and legal aspects of widowhood. (Revised 1986)

- *Wife Battering: A Criminal Offence*
  A guide booklet designed to help battered women in Nova Scotia. (Revised 1986)

- *What's Wrong with Pornography?*
  A pamphlet that defines pornography and briefly discusses its impact on society. (1984)

Recent Briefs and Position Papers

- Women and Economic Equality. Background Paper, November, 1987, 34 p.

- Presentation to the Nova Scotia Legislature's Select Committee on Trade Negotiations, December 1987, 8 p.

- Submission to the Nova Scotia Task Force on AIDS, March 1988, 9 p.

- Brief to the Nova Scotia Royal Commission on Health Care, June 1988, 29 p.

If you would like more information about any of the Council's publications or would like to obtain copies, please contact our office:

Location
Suite 207
Purdy's Wharf Tower
1959 Upper Water Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3N2

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 745
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2T3

Telephone Number: (902) 424-8662

FINANCIAL REPORT

1986–1987 Actual Expenditures		$169,955.
Salaries and Wages	$103,914.	
Travel	$ 21,912.	
Professional and Special Services	$ 8,170.	
Supplies and Services	$ 18,337.	
Other	$ 17,622.	
1987–1988 Estimated Budget		$373,300.
Salaries and Wages	$241,400.	
Travel	$ 74,400.	
Professional and Special Services	$ 19,500.	
Supplies and Services	$ 29,700.	
Other	$ 8,300.	